

REMARKS

Claims 1-29, as amended, are pending in this application. Claims 1, 3, 12, 13, 17, and 18 have been amended to further clarify the features of the invention. In light of the Office Action, Applicant believes these amendments serve a useful clarification purpose, independent of patentability. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that the claim amendments do not limit the range of any permissible equivalents. As no new matter has been added by the amendments herein, Applicant respectfully requests entry of these amendments at this time.

THE REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 112

The Examiner rejected claims 3, 12, 13, and 18 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicants regard as the invention. Office Action at Page 2. In particular, the Examiner asserts that the term “off axis” is confusing. *Id.* In response, Applicant has amended claims 3, 12, 13, and 18 to clarify that “off axis” refers to a direction that is different from the direction of the camera. *See, e.g.*, Written Description at Page 10, lines 3-18. In light of the amendments to claims 1, 10, 12, 13, and 18, Applicant submits that the rejection is moot.

Based on the foregoing, Applicants request reconsideration and withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. § 112 rejections based thereon.

THE REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103

At pages 3-10 of the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1-29 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as obvious over U.S. Patent No. 5,575,719 to Gobush (“Gobush”) in view of U.S. Publication No. 2003/0095186 to Aman (“Aman”). The Examiner also rejected claims 7, 28, and 29 under § 103 as obvious over Gobush in view of Aman and U.S. Patent Publication No. 2005/0046739 to Voss (“Voss”). For at least the reasons that follow, none of the cited combinations of references disclose or suggest all of the features of the present invention.

The Examiner asserts that FIG. 4 of Gobush demonstrates that the second strobe lamp is positioned off axis. However, FIG. 4 (reproduced below) illustrates strobe lamps 21 and 22 that have identical axes as the camera 18, and lamps 23 and 24 with identical axes as camera 19.

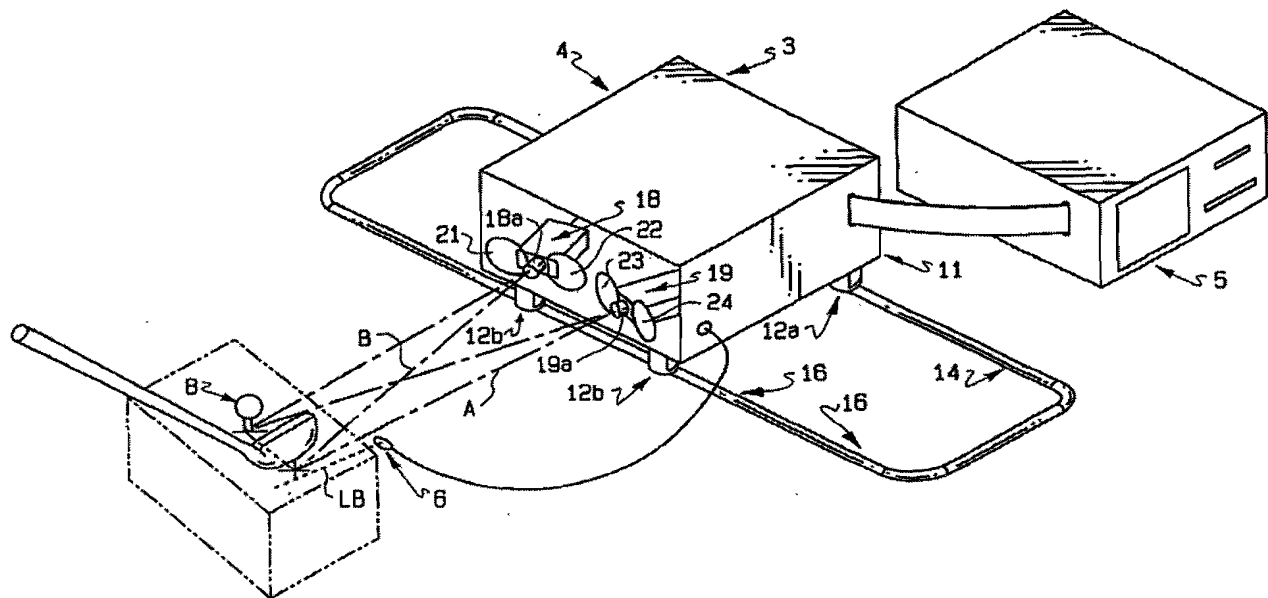
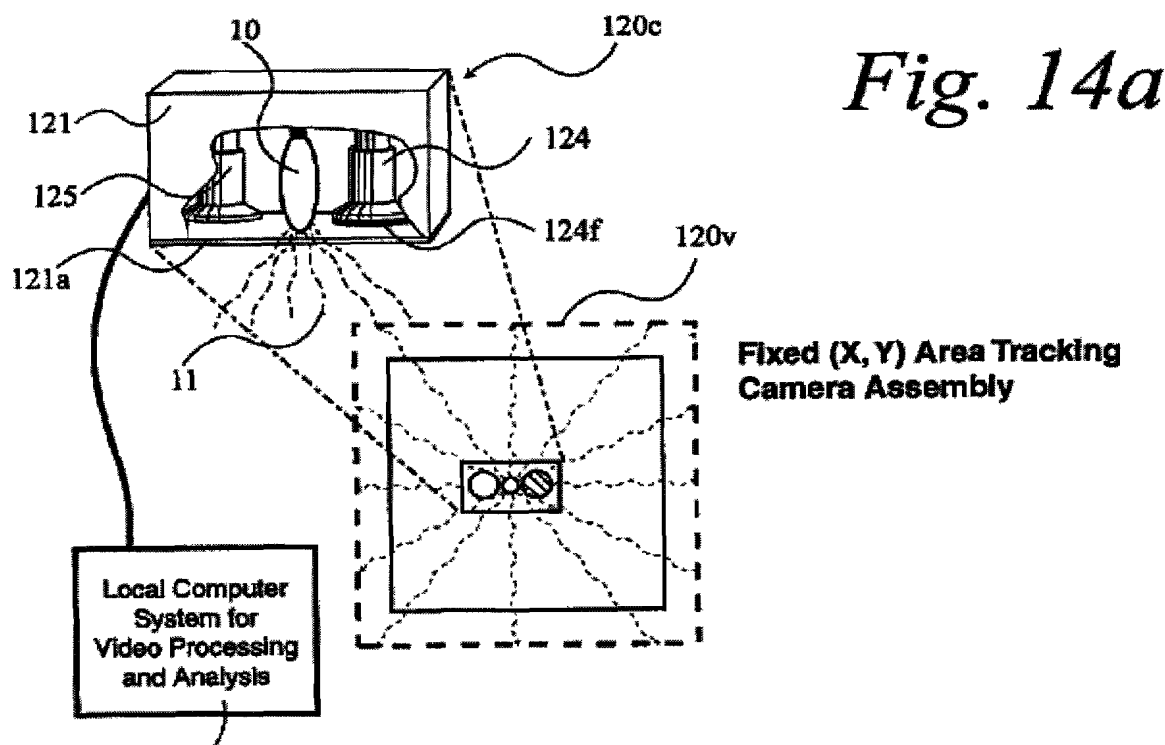


FIG. 4



In other words, there is no offset angle between the light source 10 and the cameras 125 and 124. In addition, Aman does not disclose or suggest the use of a strobe light. Thus, Aman does not disclose or suggest a second strobe light with an axis that is different from the axis of the camera, as presently recited in independent claims 1, 10, and 24.

In light of the limited purpose that the Examiner cites Voss, the purported disclosure of LEDs, Voss does not remedy the deficiencies of Gobush and Voss. Office Action at Page 11.

CONCLUSION

All claims are believed to be in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes that the present amendments and remarks still do not resolve all of the issues regarding patentability of the pending claims, Applicants invite the Examiner to contact the undersigned attorneys to discuss any remaining issues.

A Petition for Extension of Time is submitted herewith extending the time for response one month to and including July 11, 2011. No other fees are believed to be due at this time. Should any other fees be due, please charge them to Deposit Account No. 50-4545, Order No. 5222-054-US01.

Respectfully submitted,
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